

Get ready for spring at the S.F. Flower and Garden Show

Take BART to Balboa Park and ride the FREE shuttle!

Avoid traffic and parking...take BART to the 21st Annual San Francisco Flower & Garden Show where spring bursts forth with an explosion of color, excitement, and new ideas. Wake up from winter, watch those plants perform, and have fun for five glorious days, March 15-19 at San Francisco's historic Cow Palace.

Just take BART to the Balboa Park Station and the free Garden Show shuttle will whisk you directly to the Cow Palace and back.

Garden Show shuttles depart approximately every 15 minutes, starting half an hour before the show opens and continuing 30 minutes after closing. To plan your BART trip, use bart.gov's online Trip Planner.

With expanded plant and flower exhibits, as well as several new attractions for families, there is something fun and inspiring for everyone at one

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BART adds cars to rush hour trains serving San Francisco

BART ridership is growing even faster than planners anticipated so BART has added more cars to some rush hour trains serving downtown San Francisco and Oakland stations as well as those cities' airports.

"This is just one step, a big step though, in our commitment to make BART more customer friendly," said BART Board President Carole Ward Allen. "Our goal is to reward our loyal riders and make our new riders feel welcome."

BART is adding cars to every line serving San Francisco stations during the rush hour. Trains on the Dublin/Pleasanton Line, which



serves both the San Francisco and Oakland International Airports will be nine cars long. A nine-car train can comfortably seat about 600 passengers.

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Time-saving tips

When you're rushing to get to work on time, every second counts. Here are some simple ways to save time when you're taking BART.

- ✓ Buy high value tickets online at www.bart.gov, or at one of the many Tickets-to-Go vendors in the Bay Area.
- ✓ Buy your tickets in advance: after work, during lunch, on the weekend.
- ✓ Reserve a parking space at your BART station at www.bart.gov/parking.

Parade marks Cesar Chavez holiday



Commemorate and celebrate the life and work of labor and civil rights leader Cesar E. Chavez on Saturday, April 1 at San Francisco's Holiday Parade and Festival. Parade participants assemble at 11 a.m. at La Raza Park in San Francisco. The festival follows at Horace Mann School at 23rd and Valencia. Take BART to the 24th St./Mission station for both events. Visit cesarchavezday.org or call 415/621-2665 for more information. To plan your BART trip use the online Trip Planner at www.bart.gov.

Film festival features top Asian cinema

Take BART to see the best in new Asian American and Asian cinema at the 24th San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival—the largest showcase of Asian American and Asian cinema in North America, March 16-26.

Last year's event drew 250 filmmakers and industry guests and was attended by an audience of over 27,000! Don't get caught in the crowds...take BART to the festival.

Films will be shown at the Kabuki 8 Theatres and the Castro Theatre in San Francisco and the Pacific Film Archive, in Berkeley.

To get to the Kabuki 8 Theatres, take BART to Montgomery Station and catch Muni's 38-Geary to Fillmore Street.



To get to the Castro Theatre, take BART to Embarcadero, Montgomery, Powell or Civic Center and catch Muni line L, M, or K to Castro Street.

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"Flower Show" continued

of the world's largest and most celebrated spring garden festivals.

Get ready for the spring gardening season by enjoying 27 extraordinary show gardens, free seminars and workshops, educational exhibits, a new educational and activity area for families, international foods and specialty drinks, and live music. Shop for the West's finest plants, garden art, tools and specialty items that are difficult to find anywhere else.

The show is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. On Sunday, the show is open from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit www.gardenshow.com, or call 800/569-2832.

"Rush hour trains" continued

BART routinely adjusts the length of trains to meet the demands of ridership.

BART's average ridership each weekday from February 1 through February 16, 2006 was approximately 326,500 passengers—or nearly 11,000 more passengers each weekday than planners were forecasting.

Not only is the 326,500 weekday ridership figure 11,000 higher than what BART's budget planners were predicting for this year, it's also about 16,500 passengers higher than during the same period in 2005.

The increase in ridership is attributed in part to BART's low cost, high frequency service as well as its 95% passenger on-time record. Officials believe more people have discovered taking BART not only helps them bypass the Bay Area's gridlocked traffic, but also helps them save on the high cost of gasoline. Passengers pay 20 cents per mile on BART while a 2005 American Automobile Association study found drivers pay 69 cents per mile—and that doesn't include bridge tolls, parking fees or the recent increase in gas prices.

"Asian cinema" continued

Get to the Pacific Film Archive by taking BART to Downtown Berkeley.

For more information or tickets please visit www.asianamericanfilmfestival.org or telephone 415/865-1588.

Join MyBART for your chance to win free tickets to this event and receive free, weekly emails offering discounts on fun events that are easy to get to on BART. Join at www.bart.gov.

GOOD TIMES

Disney on Ice: Finding Nemo

Oakland Arena (Interstate 880 at 66th Avenue)
www.ticketmaster.com or 510/625-TIXS

BART: Coliseum

March 8-12:

Disney/Pixar's charming "Finding Nemo" brings its breathtaking aquatic world to the ice in a comical journey of friendship. Features 38 skaters costumed as ocean life and oversized props such as a life-size, 43-foot blue whale.



Masque Romance... George to Genesee

Prescott-Joseph Center for Community Enhancement
920 Peralta St., Oakland

www.prescottjoseph.org or 510/208-5651

BART: West Oakland, 6-block walk

Through March 31; viewing hours by appointment: Romantic views by visually impaired artist Genesee McGaugh are among the works on display in this restored historic Victorian convent. Free reception Thurs., March 16, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

The Surreal Calder

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
151 Third St., www.sfmoma.org or 415/357-4000

BART: Powell or Montgomery

March 3-May 21: More than 40 works by Alexander Calder are presented in the context of Surrealism. The exhibition also includes some 30 works by Calder's peers, including Max Ernst, René Magritte, Joan Miró and Yves Tanguy.

The Dick n' Dubya Show: A Republican Outreach Cabaret

The Marsh San Francisco, 1062 Valencia St.
www.themarsh.org or 800/838-3006

BART: 24th Street, 3-block walk

Through April 1: Ed Holmes is a "devastatingly dyspeptic" Cheney and Amos Glick a "comically out-of-his-depth, take-charge" Commander-in-Chief, according to the Chronicle. They run the nation from an undisclosed location in the Mission District.

25th Putnam County Spelling Bee

Post Street Theatre

450 Post St., Second floor, San Francisco

www.ticketmaster.com or 415/771-6900

BART: Powell, 5-block walk

Through April 9: Six adolescents, overseen by grown-ups who have barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learn that "win" and "lose" are just words in this funny, tender and sardonic musical.

154th St. Patrick's Day Parade

Parade Route: Second and Market to Civic Center Plaza (San Francisco). Festival: Civic Center Plaza
www.sfstpatricksdaysparade.com

BART: Embarcadero, Montgomery or Powell for parade; Civic Center for parade and festival

Sunday, March 12:

Parade 11:30 a.m.;

festival 10 a.m.-5

p.m.: The traditional celebration of Irish culture, San Francisco-style.



Question of the Month

Why does the escalator at my BART station seem to be out of service so often?

BART escalators actually work quite well when you consider they get much heavier use under more stressful conditions than escalators in malls, offices and hotels. Most of those escalators carry fewer people and are in service for fewer hours each day.

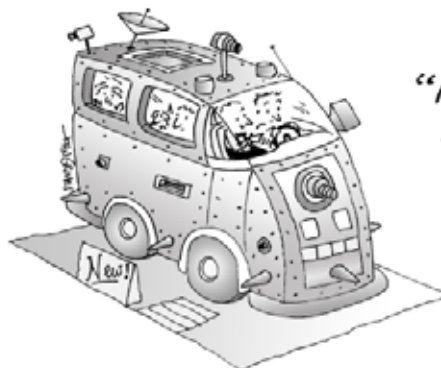
BART escalators are in service from roughly 4 a.m. to past Midnight on weekdays, handle the rigors of hostile environmental conditions (weather, grit, trash and vandalism), the stress of sudden load changes (hundreds of people exiting a BART train and rushing

up the escalator at the same time) and the extra torque of people running up or down the left side and standing on the right (mall escalators don't usually have people hurrying towards a sale on socks).

Despite all of these factors, most escalator breakdowns are repaired within 24 hours and BART escalators systemwide are operational more than 97% of the time, including downtime for scheduled preventative maintenance.



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grimescartoons.com



"IT'S A HYBRID,
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